

MUSEUM NEWS

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Van Gogh Exhibition - Opens March 7

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
FOUNDED BY EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY

THE VAN GOGH EXHIBITION

NINETY-SIX PAINTINGS and eighty-five drawings by Vincent van Gogh will be shown in the Museum of Art's most important exhibition of the year, opening March 7. The pictures came from the notable Dutch collections of V. W. van Gogh, the artist's nephew, and of the Kröller-Müller State Museum. They represent every aspect of the short and violent artistic life of Vincent Van Gogh. Only two other museums, those of Philadelphia and St. Louis, share with Toledo what will probably be the last chance for Americans to see these world famous pictures on this side of the Atlantic.

In a recent article on Vincent van Gogh, the well-known critic John Rewald wrote, "Neither the life nor the work of any other artist has had a comparable impact on the imagination of the American public." However, strangely enough, he points out that a catalogue of van Gogh's paintings published in Paris in 1939 indicated that only six American museums, including Toledo, owned paintings by the artist. There was no painting by van Gogh publicly owned in New York at that time.

The Toledo Museum of Art acquired its two famous paintings by van Gogh in 1935. They are both reproduced on these pages and will be shown in a gallery adjacent to the special exhibition. Both paintings were done at the end of his short life, and are painted in the turbulent, emotional style of the late period.



THE WHEATFIELD

ARLES 1888-89

GIFT OF EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY, 1935



HOUSES AT AUVERS

1890

GIFT OF EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY, 1935

The exhibition will give visitors an opportunity to see in consecutive form how van Gogh's style developed from the dark, sombre early canvases done in Holland, through his discovery of light and color under the guidance of the Impressionists, to the final period in southern France and near Paris which tragically ended in self destruction at the age of 37.

Perhaps no painter since his fellow Hollander Rembrandt has so profoundly touched the emotions of artists and public of our time. Compassion for his fellow man and awe before the miraculous, life-giving forces of nature are projected by a revolutionary technique—pure pigment applied with passionate, furrowing strokes. Into five years were compressed achievements as a painter such as few in the history of art have attained in long, prolific careers. Van Gogh only began this new life at 27, after a series of disappointments in love, as a lay preacher, art dealer and book seller. At his death ten years later he left behind only his work, in all but unknown, which was to have the most far reaching consequences the century soon to open.

Two artistic movements which have affected much of contemporary painting—French Fauvism and German Expressionism—owe the daring colorism of the one and violent emotion of the other to steps first

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OTHER DAYS, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.

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taken by van Gogh. Certain pictures stemming from these later developments as well as others in the Museum collection by his friends and contemporaries Gauguin, Pissarro, Signac and Degas will hang together in one of the galleries supplementing the main exhibition. Another gallery will be devoted to the mid-19th century landscape painters of the French Barbizon School and the Dutch group which centered about the Hague, men who were especially admired by van Gogh in the days before he left for Paris. A third room will contain photographs and explanatory labels which will be helpful to visitors in gaining a clearer understanding of the sequence of paintings and drawings presented in the exhibition.

A SPECIAL SERIES OF LECTURES by members of the Museum staff will include both general talks and discussions of various phases of van Gogh's works: Sunday and Wednesday afternoons at 3 and Thursday evenings at 8.

ON TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 30, at 8, Mr. Peter Pollock of the Art Institute of Chicago will lecture on WHAT VAN GOGH SAW. He will show photographs he has made of the places which Van Gogh painted, comparing them with changes and distortions in the final works.

MARCH 7 TO APRIL 30

Sunday and Monday	1-5
Tuesday and Thursday	9-9
Wednesday, Friday and Saturday	9-5
Admission 50 cents	Children Free